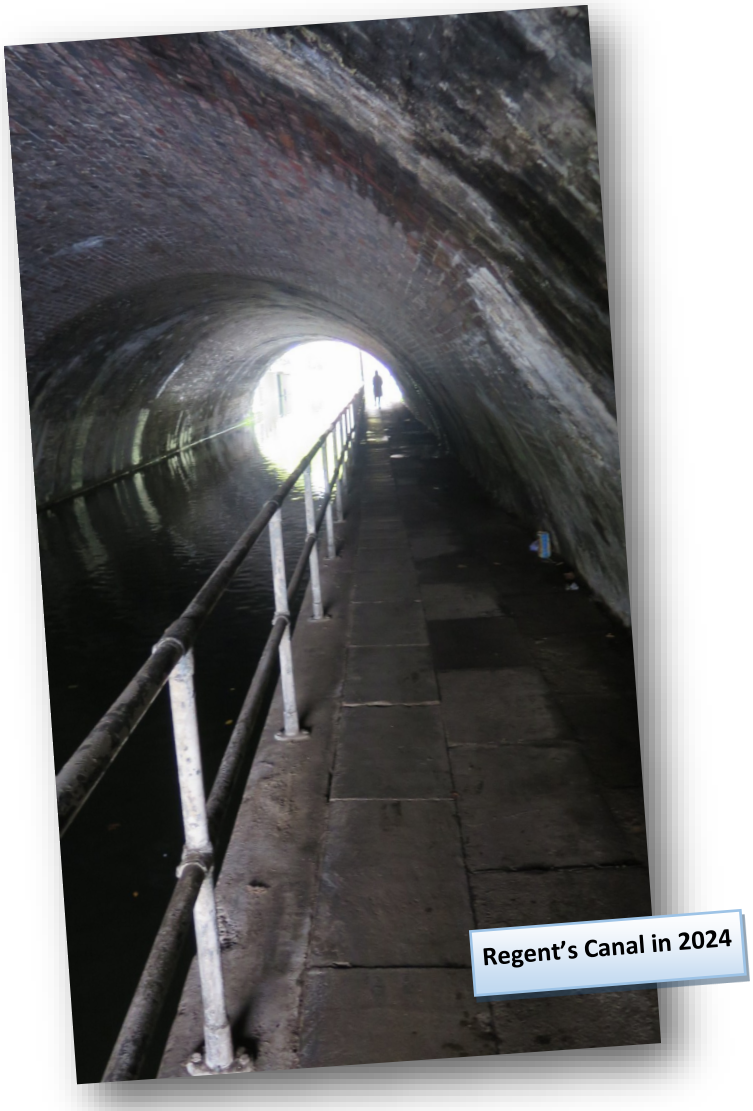
From October 2024

(Volume 175#3)

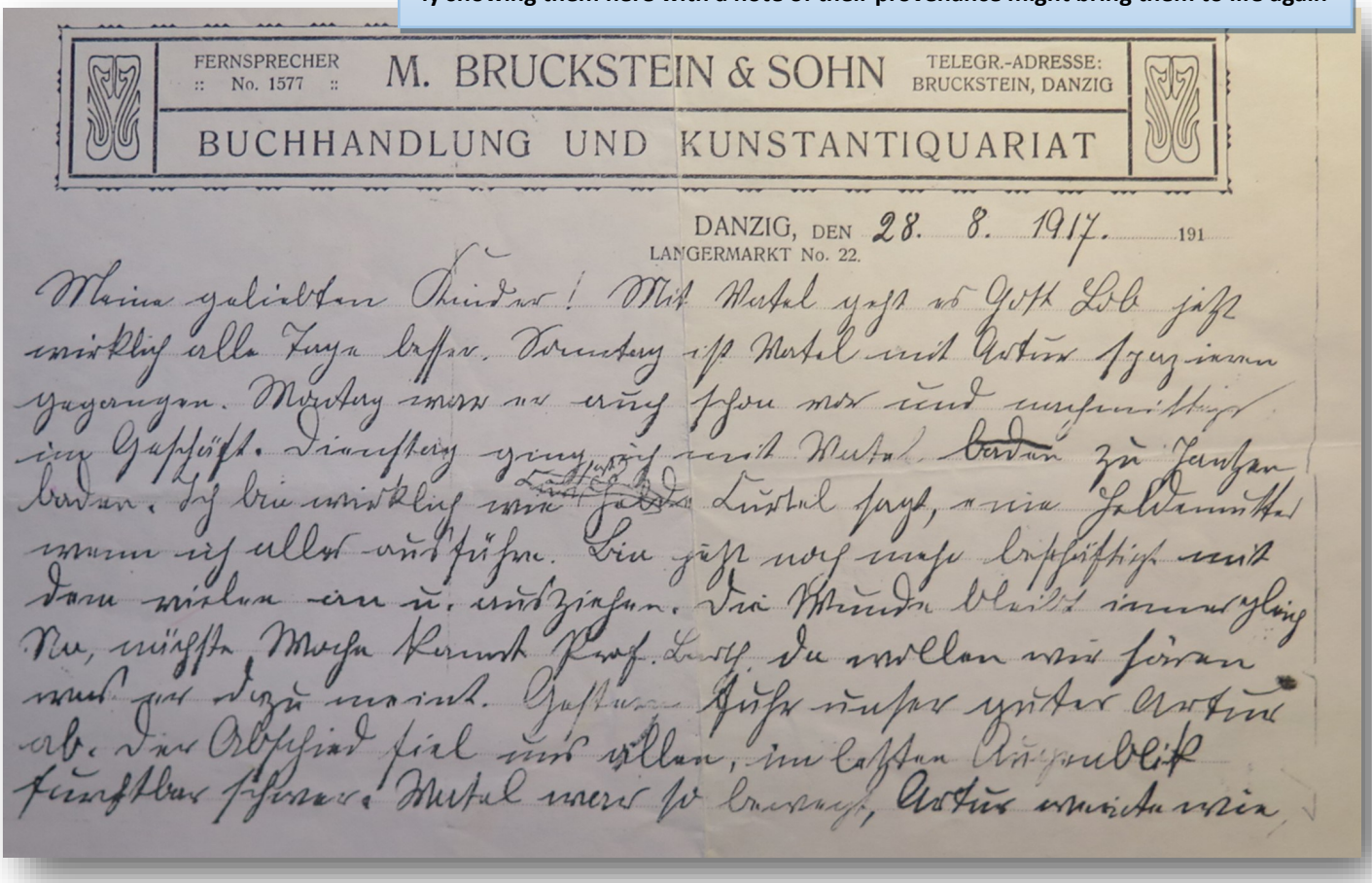
Cards, letters & documents and paintings from Tate Modern



Regent's Canal in 2024

Photo History

This is the third volume of family memories, in the form of old cards, poems, letters etc .etc. All of these would eventually have been thrown away but I feel that hopefully showing them here with a note of their provenance might bring them to life again



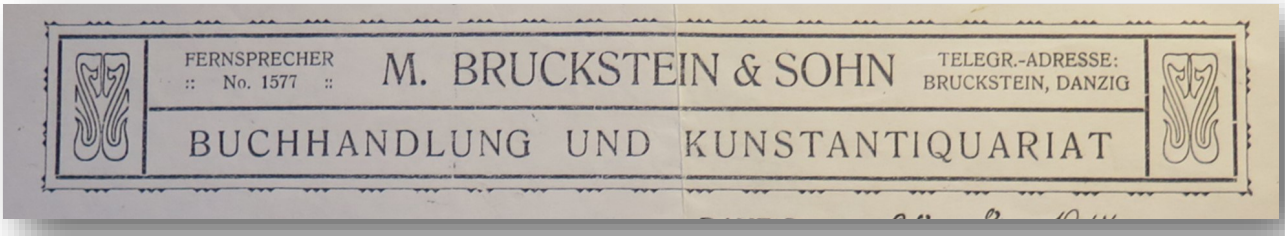
FERNSPRECHER :: No. 1577 :: M. BRUCKSTEIN & SOHN TELEGR.-ADRESSE: BRUCKSTEIN, DANZIG

BUCHHANDLUNG UND KUNSTANTIQUARIAT

DANZIG, DEN 28. 8. 1917. 191
LANGERMARKT No. 22.

Using 'Google Translate' gave distorted strange translation so I asked Renana in Berlin and she enlisted Almuth's help and this was the result

Goood morning
This is what we (Ima and me) got:



FERNSPRECHER :: No. 1577 :: M. BRUCKSTEIN & SOHN TELEGR.-ADRESSE: BRUCKSTEIN, DANZIG

BUCHHANDLUNG UND KUNSTANTIQUARIAT

My beloved children! Wartel (name?) is, thank God, truly getting better day by day. On Sunday, Wartel went for a walk with Artur. On Monday, he was already __ and in the afternoon at the shop. On Tuesday, I went with Wartel to _ for a bath. I really am, as _ says, a _, when I carry out everything. I am still very busy with all the moving in and out. The wound (?) remains the same. Now _ would like to. Tomorrow, Professor _ is coming, and we want to celebrate. What do you think about that? Yesterday, our dear Artur left. The farewell was terribly hard for all of us at the last moment. Wartel was so moved. Artur…

I think Artur might be my grandfather ?

Dad's birth certificate (I think this extract was obtained in 1968)Translation on next page

A

Staat: BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND

Etat: REPUBLIQUE FEDERALE D'ALLEMAGNE
State: FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
Estado: REPUBLICA FEDERAL DE ALEMANIA
Stato: REPUBBLICA FEDERALE TEDESCA
Staat: BONDSREPUBLIEK DUITSLAND
Devlet: ALMANYA FEDERAL CUMHURIYETI

Gemeinde:

Bad Godesberg

Commune de – Municipality – Municipio de – Comune di – Gemeente – Köy veya mahâlle

Auszug aus dem Geburtsregister

Extrait des registres de l'état civil concernant une naissance – Extract of the register of births – Extracto del registro de nacimientos – Estratto del registro delle nascite – Uittreksel uit de registers van de burgerlijke stand omtrent een geboorte – Doğuma ait nüfus kayıt hülâsası sureti.

a) Geburtsort: lieu de naissance – place of birth – lugar de nacimiento – luogo di nascita – plaats van geboorte – doğum yeri	Bad Godesberg
b) Geburtsdatum: date de naissance – date of birth – fecha de nacimiento – data di nascita – datum van geboorte – doğum tarihi	22-5-1922
c) Geschlecht des Kindes: sexe de l'enfant – sex of the child – sexo del niño – sesso del bambino – geslacht van het kind – çocuğun cinsiyeti	M
d) Familienname des Kindes: nom de famille de l'enfant – surname of the child – apellido del niño – cognome del bambino – familienaam van het kind – çocuğun soyadı	Klee
e) Vornamen des Kindes: prénoms de l'enfant – christian names of the child – nombres de pila del niño – prenomi del bambino – voornamen van het kind – çocuğun adı	Horst
f) Familienname des Vaters: nom de famille du père – surname of the father – apellido del padre – cognome del padre – familienaam van de vader – babasının soyadı	Klee
g) Vornamen des Vaters: prénoms du père – christian names of the father – nombres de pila del padre – prenomi del padre – voornamen van de vader – babasının adı	Maximilian
h) Mädchenname der Mutter: nom de jeune fille de la mère – maiden name of the mother – apellido de soltera de la madre – nome di signorina della madre – maisjesnaam van de moeder – anasının evlenmeden önceki soyadı	Kaufmann
i) Vornamen der Mutter: prénoms de la mère – christian names of the mother – nombres de pila de la madre – prenomi della madre – voornamen van de moeder – anasının adı	Johanna

Ausstellungsdatum, Unterschrift und Dienstsiegel des Registerführers
date de délivrance, signature et sceau du dépositaire
date of issue, signature and seal of keeper
fecha de expedición, firma y sello del depositario
data in cui è stato rilasciato l'atto, con firma e bollo dell'ufficio
datum van afgifte, ondertekening en zegel van de bewaarder
verildiği tarih, nüfus (ahvali şahsiye) memurunun imzası ve mührü

Bad Godesberg

den 19-3-1968

Der Standesbeamte

I.V. Jülich (Jülich)

Standesamt 27 (Siegel) Bad Godesberg

A 69

Bestell-Nr. A 69
Internationale Geburtsurkunde
(Komplett-StAmt Mappe I Tasche 9)
Verlag für Standesamtswesen Frankfurt/M. (Bayer. Geschäftsstelle München) H 668 – 9

Dad's birth certificate (I think this extract was obtained in 1968)

TO

Country: FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

This is: FEDERALE REPUBLIC GERMANY
State: FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
State: FEDERAL
State: REPUBLICA FEDERAL DE ALEMANIA State:

State: FEDERALE REPUBLIC TEDESCA
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Community:

Bad Godesberg

Municipality of Municipality Town Hall of the Municipality of Gemeente See more halls

extract from the birth register

Extract from the register of births Extract from the register of births Extract from the register of births of the birth registry Extract from the register ...

a) Place of birth: place of birth place of birth – places of birth contact details	Bad Godesberg
b) Date of birth: birth date of birth certificate - date of birth of a child – date of birth date of	22-5-1922
c) Gender of the child: sex of the child sex of the child bambino geslacht von het kind sexo del – niño - sex of the çocuğun cinsiyeti	M
d) Child's surname: family name of the child surname of the child surname of the child family name – of the child	Klee
e) First name of the child: first names of the child christian names of the child pile names of the bambino first name of the child- çocuğun adi	Horst
1) Father's surname: father's family name father's surname father's surname father's family name – father's surname.	Klee
g) Father's first name: first names of father christion names of the father pile numbers of the father first name of the father –voornamen van de vader - father's name	Maximilian
h) Mother's maiden name: name of the youngest filly of the mother- name of the mother- apelled mother of the mother name of the signary of the mother- maisjesnaam van de moeder- mother's surname before marriage	Kaufmann
i) Mother's Forenames: Mother's Forenames Christian Names of the Mother's Forename ...	Johanna

Date of issue, signature and official seal of the registrar
date of issue, signature and seal of keeper

Bad Godesberg

19-3-1968

The registrar

I.V. (July)

Date of issue, signature and seal of the depositary
data in which the status of the applicant is kept, with the firm and the date of the declaration of the signature of the civil registration officer, indicating the date of issue and the signature and seal of the civil registration officer

professional qualifications civil registrar in Bad Godesberg

Sestail-Nr. A 69
International Birth Certificate
Complete registry office folder | Bag 9)
Publisher for registry office Frankfurt/M. (Bayar, Munich office) H 668-9

A 69

Dad opened his restaurant, Deli-Citi in Bishopsgate with Mum in 1973 , taking a big gamble. I helped in it on the odd occasion. British Rail decided to redevelop Liverpool Street Station and The Broadgate development now stands where the restaurant once was.

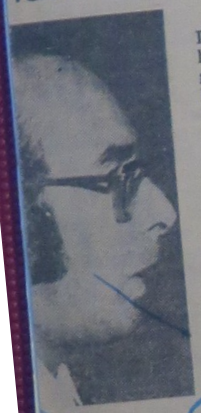
Deli-Citi Foods Limited

Registered Office:
169 Bishopsgate London EC2 M3TR
Telephone: 01-283 1956
Registered in London No. 1088840

JEWISH CHRONICLE

INCIDENTALLY

Kossoff tales



Actor, raconteur and singer David Kossoff—yes, I once heard him sing quite melodiously a programme of Cockney and old-English songs—will present his "As According to Kossoff" at the Bankside Globe Theatre, London, on Sunday. The theatre is run by Sam Wanamaker. Strangely this is the first time that a London audience will enjoy this programme. Kossoff has been touring the provinces with this solo performance but it was only Mr Wanamaker's persistence that has brought it to London for one evening. And though Biblical, it is funny. I have Mr Kossoff's word for it.

Choice bits

I went this week to **Deli-City**, the new kosher restaurant and snack bar at 169 Bishopsgate, adjacent to Liverpool Street Station, with some thoughts of keeping to my somewhat haphazard diet. I left an hour or so later with my good intentions overcome but feeling very contented. I enjoyed the meal.

Mr **Harry Kley**, the managing director, is himself a lover of good food, which even a cursory look at his figure will immediately reveal, and he can write and enthuse about it. (He is not a man to decry lokshen soup but he presented me with a cold Spanish soup, whose name escapes me, but which on a hot day was sheer delight.)

He is proud of his unique "grill station"—a single cookery unit running right across the bar where all the cooking is done in front of the customers. Naturally all the traditional Jewish foods are there (no need to mention them) and as naturally, this being a strictly kosher place, there is a fair sprinkling of yarmulkas among the customers. But I also heard of the pork-abhorring Moslems queuing for kosher salt beef and Negroes clamouring for gefilte fish. Bishopsgate, hitherto without a kosher restaurant, has need of you, Mr Kley!

Busy man

Ebullient, Chasidic type, up-and-coming communal civil servant **David Hackner** has been appointed secretary to the Jewish Committee for H. M. Forces, following the retirement of Eddie Coffer.

Hon secretary of the Jewish Book Council and joint secretary of the Jewish Memorial Council and Jewish Museum, **David** quotes the late Sir Robert Waley Cohen, —"Really busy people can find time for everything."

More couples

The list of names I gave last week of six couples who are members of the Board of Deputies was not complete. There are two other couples who should have been included.

They are Mr Alec Berniger (Order of Ancient Maccabeans) and Mrs Sarah Berniger (Hendon); and Mr Alec Fishberg (St. John's Wood) and Mrs Mollie M. Fishberg (Federation of Women Zionists).

Making sure

In a feature on El Al kitchens at London airport, The Evening News reports: "We even heard of non-Jewish passengers aboard other airlines asking for kosher food.

There is a bishop who meal on a flight.

"To an a senger, the can always Jewish food else could y in economy

'JC' b

Telephone Chronicle cla department: girl; is she

Sabba

A well bre was handed the other d adult friend.

After looki a moment, t with the gr you. I'll keep

"You'll do came the off eat it yours his own."

ver, who has just on from Israel to Daniel Bareli liyah Department gency appears to ve just the right the job. He was estine by Youth ium in 1946 and

Deli-Citi Foods Limited

169 Bishopsgate London EC2 M3TR Tel: 01-283 19

Fully-licensed Kosher restaurant

Catering for that section of London's population who have a yen for Jewish food is the new fully licensed Deli-Citi Kosher restaurant in Bishopsgate.

Here 150 lunches are prepared daily on a specially-designed Bartlett electric service counter. These "grill-station" type cooking facilities, incorporating elaborate air extraction units, mean that customers can watch whole meals being prepared without being overwhelmed by the unmistakeable smell of cooking.

The restaurant can handle waiter and self-service in the busy lunch-time periods as well as take-away sales for customers, too.

CATERER and HOTELKEEPER November 22, 1973

In 1962, The City of Bonn confirmed that my grandfather (like all Jews remaining in Germany) had to trade in any watches , rings etc in 1939 in order to pay the heavy financial burden placed on them

STADT BONN

1962 NOV 15 08:0A

An das
Landgericht
1. Wiedergutmachungskammer
Köln
Reichenspergerplatz 1

Rückerstattungssache Kley ./. Deutsches Reich

Bezug: Dort. Anfrage vom 31.1o.62 - Geschäfts-Nr.: 28 Bi Sp 2o2/61

Zu der oben erwähnten Anfrage wird mitgeteilt, daß in den Lechhausen lagen unter der Ablieferungsnummer 237 eine Abgabe "Herm.Isr.Kaufmann Isr. Klee" als Ablieferer verzeichnet steht.
Als abgelieferte Gegenstände sind 1 goliene Herrenuhr mit Doppeldeckel 585/ und 1 golderner Ring aufgeführt und mit 6o,- RM bewertet. Außerdem sind noch 7 gr. Gold 333/, 3o gr. Gold 585/ und 1ooo gr. Silber verzeichnet. Diese Gold- und Silbermengen wurden am 21.6.194o an die Degussa, Deutsche Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt, vormals Roessler, Verkaufsstelle Köln abgeliefert. Als Gesamtwert der unter der Ablieferungsnummer 237 abgelieferten Materialmenge ergibt sich aus den Unterlagen ein Betrag von 123,8o RM, der nach Abzug von 1o % Verwaltungskosten und -,6o RM Porto in Höhe von 11o,82 RM an den Ablieferndn am 28.7.1939 ausgezahlt worden ist.

Nähere Angaben über den Ablieferndn, über dessen Anschrift, sind aus den hiesigen Unterlagen nicht ersichtlich, weshalb nicht gesagt werden, ob es sich bei dem Ablieferer um den von Ihnen bezeichneten Hermann Kaufmann handelt.

Der Oberstadtdirektor
Im Auftrage:

CITY OF BONN

1Gemeinsama Annanmestminer
District and Lane Court Cologne
64 AL ABL

City of Bon - Amt 06/1

1962 NOV 15 08:0A

To the
District Court
1. Wiedergutmachungskammer
Cologne
Reichenspergerplatz 1

thr letter of

Betrim Restitution Case Kley v. German Empire

Beaug: There. Inquiry dated 31.10.62 Reference - No.: 28 Bi Sp 202/61

In response to the above-mentioned inquiry, it is reported that in the Lechhaum area, under delivery number 237, a delivery is recorded as "Herm. Isr.Kaufmann, Isr. Klee" as the deliverer. The delivered items are 1 gold men's watch with double lid,

585/ and 1 gold ring are listed and valued at 60 RM. In addition, 7 grams of gold 333/, 30 grams of gold 585/ and 1000 grams of silver are listed. These gold and silver quantities were delivered to Degussa, Deutsche Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt, formerly Roessler, Cologne sales office on June 21, 1940. The total value of the quantity of material delivered under delivery number 237 is shown in the documents to be 123.80 RM, which, after deduction of 10% administration costs and -160 RM postage, was paid out to the deliverer on July 28, 1939 in the amount of 110.62 PM.

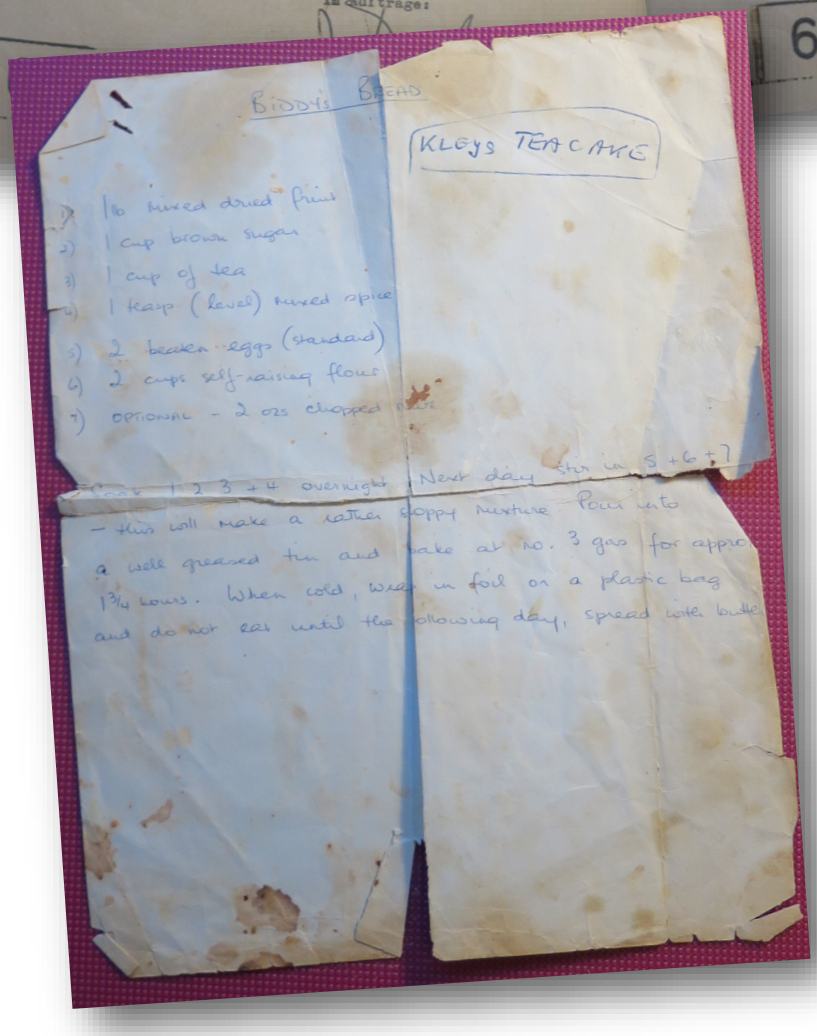
Further details about the deliverer, especially his address, cannot be found in the documents here. It cannot therefore be said whether the deliverer "Herm. Isr. Kaufmann, Isr.Klee" is the Hermann Kaufmann you have mentioned.

The Chief City Manager On behalf of:
(Dr. Potsch)
City Senior Legal Councilor

65

Bank details of the Stadtkasse:
Postscheck account Köln No. 11890 Landeszentralbank Bonn No. 442164 For transfer payments:
Postwck account Kaln 197 35

Translation


BIDDY'S BREAD
KLEYS TEA CAKE
1) 1lb mixed dried fruit
2) 1 cup brown sugar
3) 1 cup of tea
4) 1 teasp (level) mixed spice
5) 2 beaten eggs (standard)
6) 2 cups self-raising flour
7) OPTIONAL - 2 ozs chopped nuts
1 2 3 + 4 overnight. Next day stir in 5 + 6 + 7
- this will make a rather sloppy mixture. Pour into a well greased tin and bake at NO. 3 gas for approx 1 3/4 hours. When cold, wrap in foil or a plastic bag and do not eat until the following day, spread with butter

I am sure that every home has these scraps of long-forgotten recipes hidden on shelves but which are never to be found when wanted

13802968
13,041,672.
764017
Aliens Order, 1920.
CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION
To be produced by the holder when—
(a) he reports to the Police that he is about to change his residence, or to cease residence in the United Kingdom;
(b) he reports to the Police on his arrival in a new district that he has changed his residence;
(c) he presents himself at a Police Station for any purpose connected with his registration, or
(d) the Police or an Immigration Officer demand its production.
Registration Certificate No. 764017
Issued at Margate, Kent
4th September, 1939
PHOTOGRAPH.
Nationality German
Born on 22/5/1922 in Bad Godesberg
Previous Nationality (if any)
Profession or Occupation Trainee Cuis
Single or Married Single
Address of Residence Northumberland Hotel, Margate, Kent.
Arrival in United Kingdom on 30/3/1939
Address of last Residence outside U.K. 74, Bonnerstrasse Bad Godesberg, Germany
Government Service
Passport or other papers as to Nationality and Identity. German Passport No. 48/K issued Bad Godesberg 18/2/39.
ENDORSEMENTS AND REMARKS.
Leave to land granted at Harwich on 30th. March, 1939, on condition that the holder will emigrate from the United Kingdom on completion of his training.
No objection to the trainee employment of Mr. Klee by Mr. Gradel as proposed. Vide H.O. letter dated 18th. May, 1939. Ref. K.17116.
MARGATE BOROUGH POLICE ALIENS REGISTRATION DEPT. 4/9/39.
ENDORSEMENTS AND REMARKS.
Refugee from Nazi oppression.
The holder of this Certificate is to be exempted until further order from internment and from the special restrictions applicable to enemy aliens under the Aliens Order, 1920, as amended.
CHIEF CONSTABLE'S OFFICE ALIENS REGISTRATION 13 OCT 1939 DEPARTMENT MARGATE
Tribunal for Margate Distri
4
ENDORSEMENTS AND REMARKS.
Will change to Bloomsbury House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C. on 31/10/39.
MARGATE BOROUGH POLICE 30/10/39 ALIENS REGISTRATION DEPT.
Serial No. 333692
Reported arrival at Camden Hill Road W8 on 31/10/39
5
ENDORSEMENTS AND REMARKS.
METROPOLITAN POLICE ALIENS REGISTRATION OFFICE 10/11/39 BOW STREET STATION, W.C.
Red Lion Hotel High Wycombe Bucks
11/11/39
Occupation Trainee

Dad was granted permission to land at Harwich in March 1939 and this certificate of registration showed he was exempted from internment as a refugee from Nazi oppression.

The stamps in this book show his hotel training from London to High Wycombe, Bucks (in 1939)

From Red Lion to Bloomsbury House and then Fellows Road 1940 (where he met mum)

Dad enlisted in the Army (Pioneer Corps) in York in 1940

This book appears to have been very important , carrying imprisonment and large fines if there was a failure to comply with the requirements

Grandfather's Klee's birth certificate (translation on next page)

E 1

Geburtsurkunde

(Standesamt ~~Plaidt, jetzt~~ Andernach-Land in Andernach Nr. 72/1894)

Maximilian Klee

ist am 28. März 1894

in S a f f i g geboren.

Vater: Handelsmann Abraham Klee, israelitischer Religion, wohnhaft in Saffig.

Mutter: Johanna Klee geborene Stolz, israelitischer Religion, wohnhaft in Saffig.

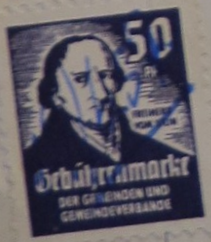
Änderung der Eintragung:

Andernach, den 19. Juni 1957.

(Siegel)

Der Standesbeamte

In Vertretung



Grandfather's Klee's birth certificate (translation)

E 1

birth certificate

(Registry Office Plaidt, now Andernach-Land in Andernach No. 72/1894)

Maximilian Klee

is by March 28, 1894

born in Saffig.

Father: Tradesman Abraham Klee, of Israelite religion, living in Saffig.

Mother: Johanna Klee née Stolz, of Israelite religion, living in Saffig.

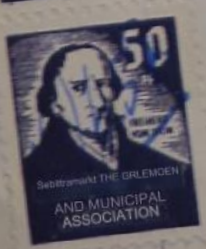
Change of entry:

Andernach, June 19, 195.7.

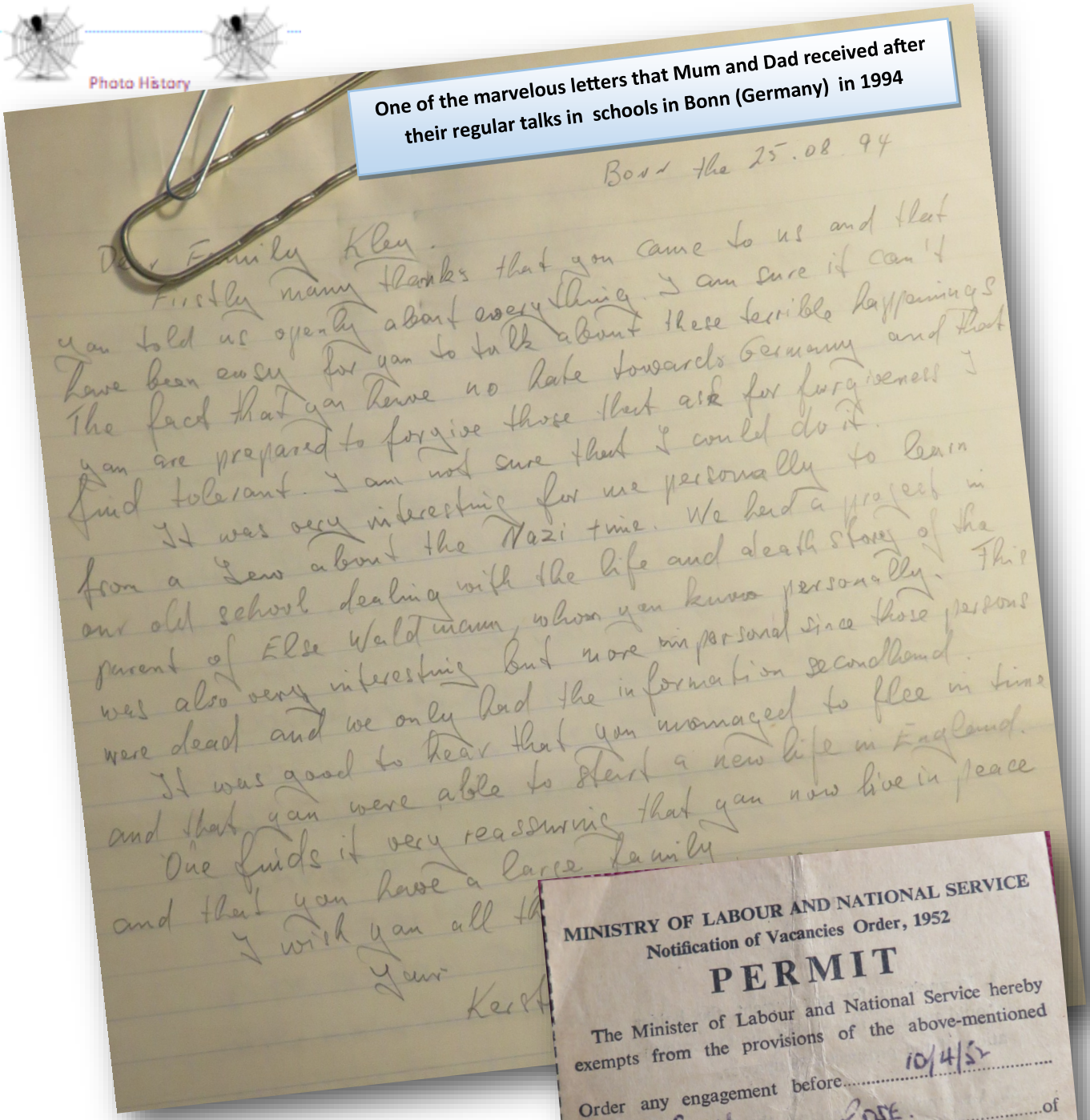
The Registrar In Representation

(Siegel)

Der Standesbeamte von Andernach-Land



Jude
Deutsches Reich
J
DEUTSCHES REICH
REISEPASS
Dad's original German passport
Reisefreigrenze
RM
In Anspruch genommen,
Devisenmerkblatt ausgehändigt.
BONN,
DEUTSCHE BANK FILIALE BONN
DEUTSCHES REICH
J
REISEPASS
Nr. 48/K
Horst Israel Klee
BEGLEITET VON SEINER EHEFRAU
UND VON KINDERN
STAATSANGEHÖRIGKEIT:
DEUTSCHES REICH
Dieser Paß enthält 32 Seiten
UNITED KINGDOM
Visa for
Date
No. 45235
Granted at COLOGNE
Signature
CONSULAR SERVICE
CONSULAR SERVICE
CONSULAR SERVICE
GOOD FOR SINGLE JOU
LEAVE TO LAND GRANTED AT HARWICH
THIS DAY ON CONDITION THAT THE HOLDER
WILL EMIGRATE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM
ON COMPLETION OF HIS TRAINING
30 MAR 1939
HARWICH
GELTUNGSBEREICH DES PASSES
In- und Ausland.
Der Paß wird ungültig am
17. März 1940
wenn er nicht verlängert wird.
Ausstellende Behörde
Bad Godesberg, den 18. März 1939
Der Bürgermeister
als Ortspolizeibehörde
I.A.
Unterschrift
VERLÄN
1. Verlängert bis
2. Verlängert bis
3. Verlängert bis
Ehefrau
Unterschrift des Paßinhabers
und seiner Ehefrau
Es wird hiermit bescheinigt, daß der Inhaber die durch das obenstehende Lichtbild dargestellte Person ist und die darunter befindliche Unterschrift eigenhändig voll-
Bad Godesberg, den 18. März 1939
Der Bürgermeister
als Ortspolizeibehörde
I.A.
PERSONENBESCHREIBUNG
Ehefrau
Beruf Koch
Geburtsort Bad Godesberg
Geburtstag 22. 5. 1913
Wohnort Bad Godesberg
Gestalt mittel
Gesicht oval
Farbe der Augen braun
Farbe des Haares d. braun
Besond. Kennzeichen keine
KINDER
Name
Alter
Geschlecht



One of the marvelous letters that Mum and Dad received after their regular talks in schools in Bonn (Germany) in 1994

Bonn the 25.08.94

Dear Family Kley.

Firstly many thanks that you came to us and that you told us openly about everything. I am sure it can't have been easy for you to talk about these terrible happenings. The fact that you have no hate towards Germany and that you are prepared to forgive those that ask for forgiveness I find tolerant. I am not sure that I could do it.

It was very interesting for me personally to learn from a Jew about the Nazi time. We had a project in our old school dealing with the life and death story of the parent of Else Waldmann, whom you know personally. This was also very interesting but more impersonal since those persons were dead and we only had the information secondhand.

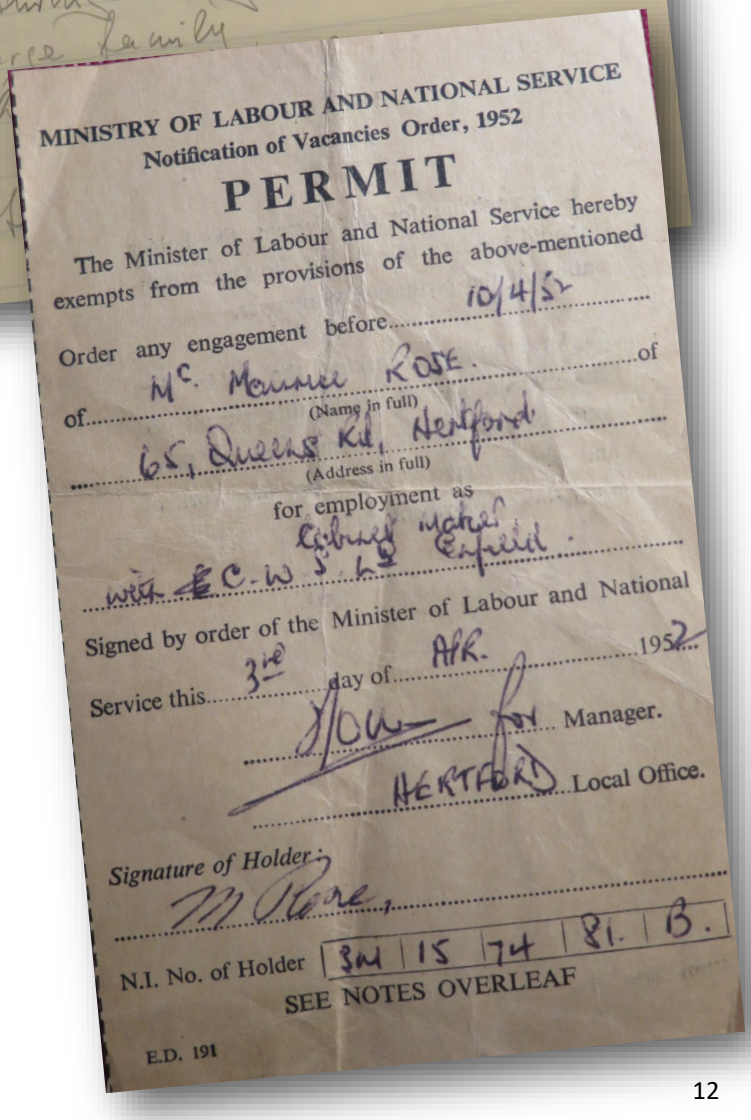
It was good to hear that you managed to flee in time and that you were able to start a new life in England.

One finds it very reassuring that you now live in peace and that you have a large family.

I wish you all th

Your

Kerst



MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE
Notification of Vacancies Order, 1952

PERMIT

The Minister of Labour and National Service hereby exempts from the provisions of the above-mentioned Order any engagement before 10/4/52 of Mc. Maurice ROSE. (Name in full) of 65, Queens Rd, Hertford (Address in full) for employment as Cabinet Maker with C.W.S. Ld Enfield.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour and National Service this 3rd day of APR. 1952

[signature] for Manager.

HERTFORD Local Office.

Signature of Holder: M Rose,

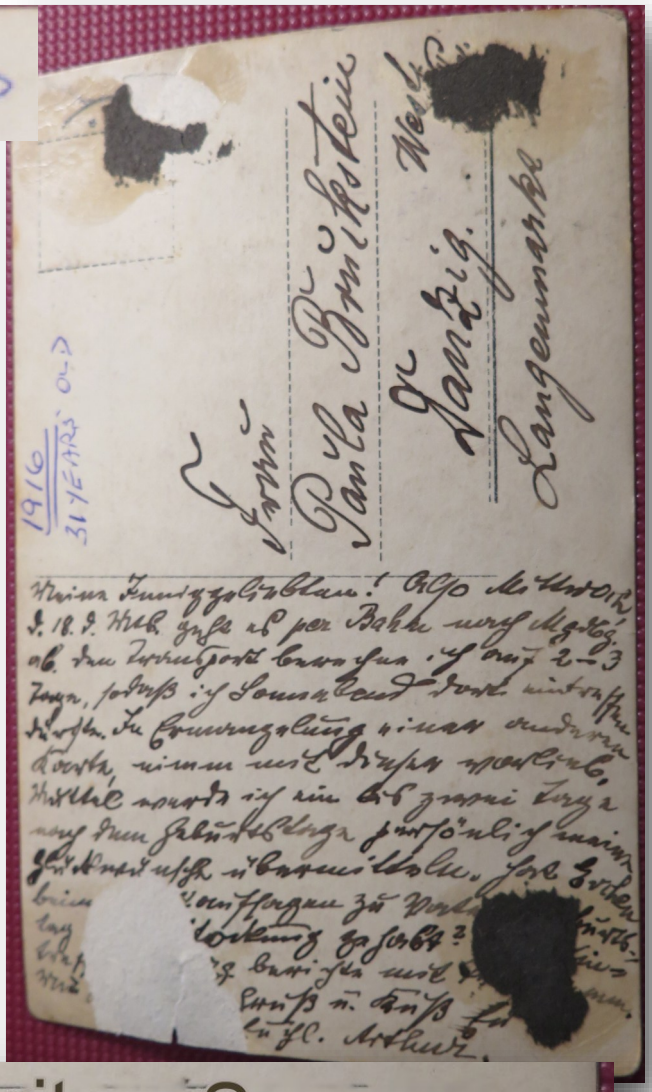
N.I. No. of Holder | 3M | 15 | 74 | 81. | B.

SEE NOTES OVERLEAF

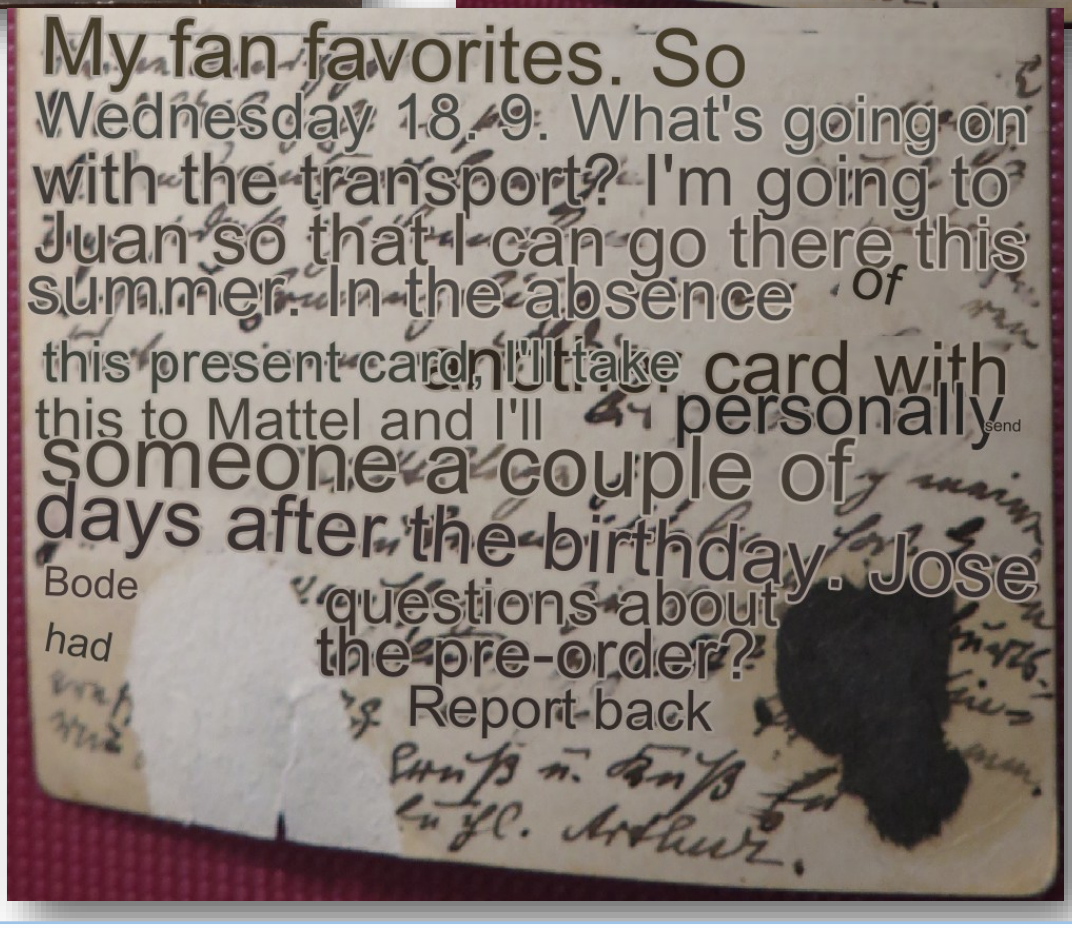
E.D. 191

Morrie exempted from National Service as he worked in a secret war industry as a cabinet maker on plane fusalage

1916
31 YEARS OLD



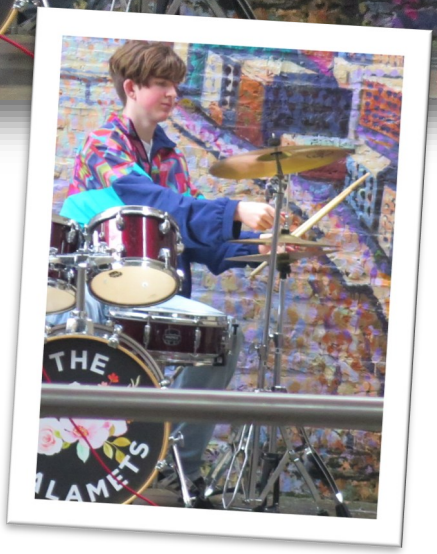
Card from Grandad Bruckstein in uniform to Grandma Paula in 1916


My fan favorites. So
Wednesday 18. 9. What's going on
with the transport? I'm going to
Juan so that I can go there this
summer. In the absence of
this present card, I'll take card with
this to Mattel and I'll personally send
someone a couple of
days after the birthday. Jose
Bode questions about
had the pre-order?
Report back

The difficult to understand Google translation

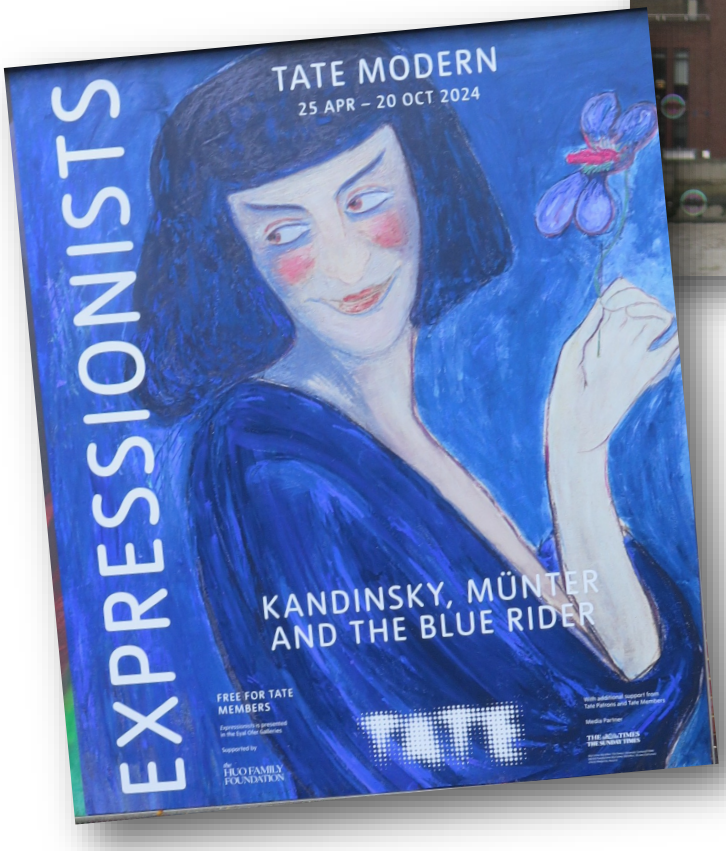
This is the end of the letters, cards etc that I found in a long-discarded box...i do hope you found them all as interesting as I did

A public 'try-out' for these youngsters on The South Bank



We managed to get into the Expressionists at The Tate modern on the last day but very few inspired us.. (they are here)

The exhibition starts with the Blue Rider collective's core couple, Wassily Kandinsky and Gabriele Münter. We then follow like-minded artists from Eastern and Western Europe and the USA as they connect in Munich, engaging in collaborative work. Exploring the key concerns at the heart of their creative experimentation, later rooms are dedicated to spirituality, sonic perception and colour theory. Culminating in the legacies of the Blue Rider artists, this exhibition presents the lasting influence of a transnational artistic collective.
EXPRESSIONISTS
TATE MODERN
25 APR – 20 OCT 2024



Wassily Kandinsky 1866–1944
Born Russian Empire (now Russian Federation), worked Germany, Switzerland, Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic and France

Riding Couple 1906–7
Oil paint on canvas

Listening (Portrait of Jawlensky) 1909
Oil paint on card

Münter recalled: 'They [Kandinsky, Jawlensky and Paul Klee] were constantly arguing about art and each of them, at first, had his own ideas and his own style. My 1908 portrait entitled *Listening* actually represents Jawlensky, with an expression of puzzled astonishment on his chubby face, listening to Kandinsky's new theories of art.' Speaking of her process, Münter noted, 'Those who look at my paintings with close attention, will discover the draftswoman in them. Despite their colourfulness, they boast a firm graphic framework. Mostly, I draw my paintings with a black brush onto the board or canvas before I add the colours.'

Lynn and I agreed that this one was actually our favourite

Lyonel Feininger 1871–1956
Born USA, worked France, Germany and USA

Behind the Church 1916
Oil paint on canvas

Lyonel Feininger 1871–1956
Born USA, worked France, Germany and USA

Gelmeroda III 1913
Oil paint on canvas

Marianne Werefkin 1860–1938

Born Russian Empire (now Russian Federation), worked Russian Empire, Germany, Lithuania and Switzerland

Self Portrait c.1910

Tempera on paper on card

Created in the year of her 50th birthday, this self portrait is a statement of Werefkin's independent status as a woman. Adorned in a distinctive crimson hat, she stares defiantly at the viewer, her irises painted a vibrant orange. She captures the extravagant accessories and make up that was part of her now bohemian artist life. The strong facial features, direct assertive gaze and use of bold colours play with traits associated with masculinity employed to confront gender stereotypes of the time. Werefkin made this work for the 1911 NKVM exhibition demonstrating the artist's intention to control her self-image.

Erma Bossi 1875–1952

Born Austria-Hungary (now Croatia), worked Austria-Hungary, Germany, France and Italy

Portrait of Marianne Werefkin c.1910

Oil paint on card

Bossi met Kandinsky and Münter in Munich after moving there from the multicultural city of Trieste. She was drawn to Werefkin's circle and became a member of the NKVM. Here Bossi portrays Werefkin in her role as founder and host of the artistic and intellectual salon. This space became a vibrant meeting place to discuss the latest ideas on music, literature, theatre, philosophy and art. Werefkin spoke Russian, German, English, French, Polish, Lithuanian and Italian, enabling her to cultivate a highly transcultural atmosphere among Munich's local and international progressive circles.

August Macke 1887–1914

Born Germany, worked Italy, Switzerland and Germany

Promenade 1913

Oil paint on card

Promenade is a poetic celebration of everyday life. Elisabeth Macke commented on works like this: 'they are true poems, visions of daily life, created with uninhibited joy and a deep fervour of devotion to the work'. August Macke later wrote, 'work for me means a thorough enjoyment of nature, the blazing sun and trees, shrubs, human beings, animals, plants and pots, tables, chairs, mountains, water of illuminated becoming I immerse myself in the snow-drop's friendly nodding, in the rhythm of the bird-laden twigs swaying in the sun ...'

Albert Bloch 1882–1961
Born USA, worked Germany and USA

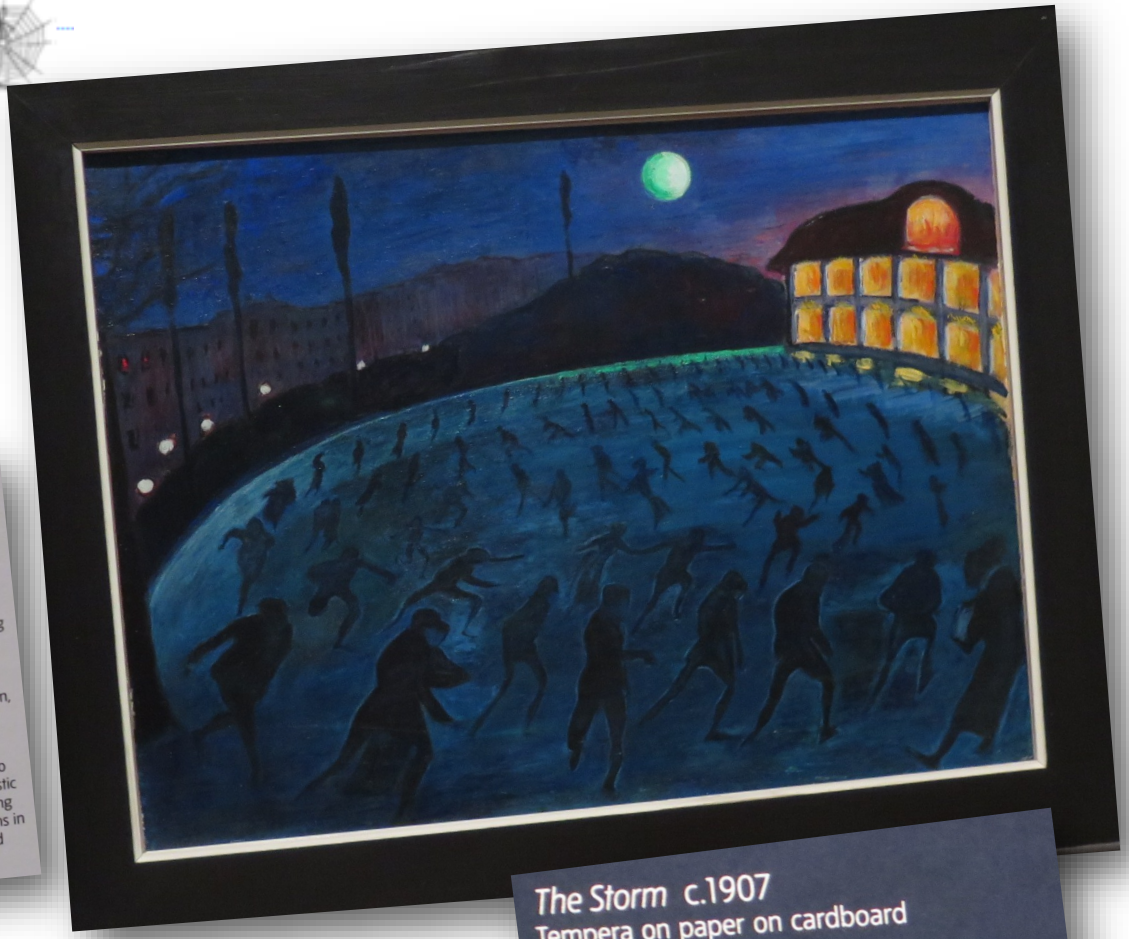
Prize Fight 1912–13
Oil paint on canvas

Marianne Werefkin 1860–1938
Born Russian Empire (now Russian Federation), worked Russian Empire, Germany, Lithuania and Switzerland

The Dancer, Alexander Sacharoff
1909
Tempera on paper on board

Sacharoff entranced audiences with groundbreaking free-movement performances, radically disrupting gender norms by performing in women's or gender-fluid outfits. Sacharoff also assumed an androgynous persona off-stage and in social life. Werefkin's portrait of the dancer in the role of Salome is a powerful celebration of the body, transgressing the sexualisation of the male gaze. Rejecting both traditional and modernist modes of bodily representation, the image of Sacharoff challenges turn-of-the-century societal norms and expectations.

Museo Comunale d'Arte Moderna, Ascona



Marianne Werefkin 1860–1938
Born Russian Empire (now Russian Federation), worked Russian Empire, Germany, Lithuania and Switzerland

The Skaters 1911
Tempera on paper on board

Here, figures are depicted as shadows skating under the moonlight. Werefkin creates a dynamic choreography of body movements surrounded by a turquoise outline. Her sketchbooks reveal studies of bodies in motion, used to inform her approach to larger compositions like this.

After a ten-year break, Werefkin returned to easel painting in 1906. She abandoned realistic oil painting to concentrate on experimenting with opaque intense colourful compositions in tempera, a fast-drying medium often used in religious art.

The Storm c.1907
Tempera on paper on cardboard

The Storm was included in the *Second Izdebsky Salon*, an international modernist exhibition that toured Ukrainian cities of Odesa, Mykolaiv and Kherson in 1911. The work was described amongst the highlights of the show in the *Odesa Newspaper* on 2 March: 'Marianna Werefkin's work is peculiar and beautiful, especially "The Storm". The painting depicts the despair and supplication of the wives of fishermen who went to sea'. The exhibition resonated strongly with the public with reactions ranging from complete rejection and attempted acts of vandalism to genuine appreciation.

August Macke 1887–1914
Born Germany, worked Italy, Switzerland and Germany

Milliner's Shop 1913
Oil paint on canvas

Marianne Werefkin 1860–1938
Born Russian Empire (now Russian Federation), worked Russian Empire, Germany, Lithuania and Switzerland

Into the Night 1910
Tempera on paper on board

Franz Marc 1880–1916
Born and worked Germany

Tiger 1912
Oil paint on canvas

After discontinuing his studies at the Munich Academy of Art, Marc spent time in France and in the Alpine town of Sindelsdorf, where he painted relentlessly. Even before he joined the Blue Rider, the young Marc was interested in spirituality and philosophy, stating 'although I have been an artist all my life, as a result of my upbringing and environment and my own inclinations, I have also been half cleric and half philologist.' The coiled geometry in *Tiger* evokes wild animal energy. The depiction of the tiger – an animal important to Buddhist tradition – was informed by Marc's interest in spiritual teachings as well as Japanese prints.

Maria Franck-Marc 1876–1955
Born and worked Germany

Two Children between Flowers c.1912
Oil paint on canvas

Franck-Marc was intensely interested in the creativity and spirituality of children. Her vibrant expressive paintings explore the spiritual lives of children realised through imaginative and creative play. The early 20th century saw significant advancements in developmental studies, feminist theory and educational reform movements in Germany. Popular academic publications ranged from feminist writings to developmental psychology. Franck-Marc's compositions were included in the Blue Rider's second exhibition in 1912, offering a subversive side to modernist's engagement with manifold manifestations of spirituality.

Wassily Kandinsky 1866–1944
Born Russian Empire (now Russian Federation), worked Germany, Switzerland, Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic and France

Lady in Moscow 1912
Oil paint on canvas

Gabriele Münter 1877–1962
Born Germany, worked USA, Germany, France, Switzerland and Sweden

Kandinsky and Erma Bossi at the Table 1912
Oil paint on canvas

Through simplified forms, a bold colour palette and a carefully framed composition, Münter playfully subverts an intimate domestic setting. She reflected on these early Murnau paintings: 'after a short period of agony, I took a great leap forward, from copying nature – in a more or less impressionist style – to feeling the contents of things, abstracting, conveying an essence. It was a wonderful, interesting, enjoyable time, with lots of conversations about art...'.

Gabriele Münter 1877–1962
Born Germany, worked USA, Germany, France, Switzerland and Sweden

Portrait of Marianne Werefkin 1909
Oil paint on card

This is one of many portraits Münter painted in Murnau. She recalled, 'I painted the Werefkina in 1909 before the yellow basement of my house. She was a woman of grand appearance, self-confident, commanding, extravagantly dressed, with a hat as big as a wagon wheel, on which there was room for all sorts of things.' The summer of 1909 was an intense period of collaborative creativity within the circle of friends. Münter developed her own daring and distinct experiments with figurative form, carefully considered composition and expressive colour.

Marianne Werefkin 1860–1938
Born Russian Empire (now Russian Federation), worked Russian Empire, Germany, Lithuania and Switzerland

The Red Tree 1910
Tempera on paper on cardboard

The local people, landscapes and scenes of Murnau were a great inspiration for Werefkin. She created a series of expressive works there, emphasising pure colour and flattened forms. She reflected, 'All my sentiments, all my impressions are translated into this language of lines and of colours, as simply as this is done by everyone in language … I look in nature for that … without destroying my figurative form.' Using the ancient painting technique of tempera, Werefkin sought to give her works deep spiritual meaning. In Murnau she found the balance between her environment, her sense of self and her art.

Marianne Werefkin 1860–1938

Marionette theater with Jawlensky and Marianne Werefkin in the foreground 1917–18

Tempera on paper on card

MURNAU: THE POSSIBILITY OF PLACE

Murnau, a rural town in the foothills of the Bavarian Alps by the shores of the Staffelsee lake, became a place of artistic exchange and inspiration for the Blue Rider artists. Münter and Kandinsky first visited with Werefkin and Jawlensky for a summer open air sketching holiday in 1908. In 1909, Münter purchased a house there, alternating with Kandinsky between the city and the country. Fellow artists Marc and Franck-Marc settled in the neighbouring town of Sindelsdorf and later, Kochel. In 1910, August and Elisabeth Macke moved to nearby Tegernsee. Murnau became a site of creative collaboration that laid the foundations of the NKVM and the Blue Rider. The artists embraced a country lifestyle, swimming in the lake and skiing in the mountains. They also designed their own garden, growing a vegetable patch and using the produce for the household and their guests.

The artists engaged with local arts and crafts, including reverse glass painting. This method consists of painting pictures on the back of a clear glass panel. Viewed from the opposite side of the glass, the colours appear bold and reminiscent of enamels. Münter was the first to learn the technique, later stating that 'the traditional reverse glass painting which used to flourish around the Staffelsee had a lasting influence on me with its strong colours in black outlines and its carefree decorative designs.'

In Murnau, Kandinsky experimented with the local landscape, simplifying his forms and producing his first non-figurative paintings. Münter forged her own radical approach to figuration 'intuiting the content, abstracting presenting the essence'. Werefkin found a spiritual affinity with the environment that fuelled her return to easel painting.

Franz Marc 1880–1916

Born and worked Germany

Cows, Red, Green, Yellow 1911

Oil paint on canvas

Robert Delaunay 1885–1941
Born France, worked Spain, Portugal and France

Study for 'The City' 1909–10
Oil paint on canvas

Marianne Werefkin 1860–1938
Born Russian Empire (now Russian Federation), worked Russian Empire, Germany, Lithuania and Switzerland

The Prayer 1910
Tempera on paper on cardboard